In the Claims

Please amend Claim 16 as follows:

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16. The method of claim 14 wherein said bait molecules are synthesized by reverse transcriptase after the addition of at least one primer complementary to 16S RNA and at least one primer complementary to 23S RNA.

REMARKS

In order to comply with the sequence rules the specification has been amended to include SEQ ID NO: identifiers. Claim 16 has been amended to more specifically point out the invention. Support for the amended claim can be found in Example 1 beginning on page 20 of the specification. Applicants assert that no new matter has been added by the amendments. Examination of the subject application, as amended, is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 408-731-5699.

Dated: September 14, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

Wei Zhou

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